

# ♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

Volume 25 Issue 2

Published Quarterly by the Lamoine Town Office

October 2019



## And We're Off-Lamoine 150!

(Lamoine) - The expression on legendary runner Robin Emery's face as she crosses the finish line on October 5, 2019 pretty much says it all as the race in her name officially kicked off the start of a nearly year-long celebration of the town's 150th birthday. Though attendance was low (there were a lot of road races across the state that weekend), enthusiasm was very high. In addition to the 4-mile road race and 5K walk, the Lamoine Fire Department and Baptist Church worked together to put on a community barbecue. The local girl scout troop and cross country runners assisted with a little kid's race, sponsored by Lamoine's Little Children.

The Lamoine Parks Commission also sponsored and staffed a scavenger hunt at the three town parks, Lamoine Beach, Bloomfield Park, and Marlboro Beach. The weather cooperated perfectly for the road racers.

The Lamoine 150! Committee has also created numerous items such as posters, mugs, magnets and more with the official logo which is for sale at the town office.

## Solar Company to Propose Big Project

*By Larissa Thomas, Conservation Commission Chair*

(Lamoine) - Lamoine could soon see a significant boost to non property tax revenues, thanks to lease payments the Town could receive from hosting a solar generating facility on a parcel of Town land near the old landfill. The Lamoine Conservation Commission, with the endorsement of the Board of Selectmen, invited bids to design, construct, and operate a solar farm on the land behind the current transfer station on Lamoine Beach Road.

SunPower, a multi-national firm with a Boston office, submitted a proposal that the Conservation Commission recommended that Select Board accept. SunPower conducted a site visit, and met with Commission members and Town staff, and made a presentation to the Select Board about the project. Based on the September 19 site visit and meetings, SunPower refined the project approach and submitted a revised proposal in October. The proposal will go before a Special Town Meeting on November 7, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Lamoine Town Hall (just before the Selectmen's meeting) to see if voters will accept the bid and launch the project.

Thanks to recent state legislation, a system was established to market electricity generated by large-scale solar facilities. Lamoine's solar farm would be like a power plant comprised of solar panels, and the electricity generated will go onto the electrical grid to serve anyone in the Emera Maine service area. In exchange for hosting the facility, the Town of Lamoine will receive lease payments from SunPower over a 20-year period, as well as discounted electricity rates for the Town facilities such as the school, fire station, transfer station, and Town Hall. The Town will not pay for any of the design, engineering, permitting, construction, or operation and maintenance of the solar farm, all of which will be handled by SunPower or their subcontractors, some of which will be local, as feasible.

Lamoine is moving quickly on this project, as there are monetary advantages to being one of the early participants in the newly established solar markets. The Lamoine Conservation Commission is excited to see the Town become a leader in Maine's green energy economy. The project is a win-win, promoting clean energy and supporting the fiscal health of the Town with a new source of funds from sources other than property taxes. The Conservation Commission believes the project will elevate the Town's profile as an attractive, forward-thinking community, invested in the future for our children.

SunPower will require 3-phase power at the site, and will need to extend the existing lines that terminate on Lamoine Beach Road in front of the school.

*These three ladies (l-r) Kasey Jordan, her mom Lori, and Lily Philbrook, are responsible for the major landscaping improvements around the Lamoine Veterans' Memorial at the Town Hall. They've removed some dying, non-native plants, mulched behind the big stone, and purchased and planted a dozen and a half beautiful mums that lined the brick walk.*



## Community Center Survey Available

(Lamoine) - Since last winter a special committee appointed by the Board of Selectmen has worked to figure out if a community center of some sort is a feasible project for the town to embark upon. The panel consists of a wide breadth of citizens, some new to town, others who have been here quite a while, and some who are already appointed to other boards. The goal is to prepare a report to the Selectmen on whether to pursue a plan.

The committee initially had all sorts of ideas and discussion about what a community center might look like. First, though, it wanted to get opinions from potential stake holders about whether there is a need and desire for such a facility.

Many took the time to fill out a survey about a community center from their particular point of view, which proved very helpful.

Now it's the townspeople's turn. The committee (officially named the Lamoine Community Center Feasibility Study Committee) has developed a 22-question survey. A link was placed on the town's website ([www.lamoine-me.gov](http://www.lamoine-me.gov)) in early October and a hope that with publicity those with an interest in Lamoine will take the few minutes it takes to answer the questions.

The survey will remain open until Thanksgiving (November 28th). Answers are anonymous, and paper copies are available at the town hall at some point for those without Internet access.



## Tall House Hearing Set for October 29

(Lamoine) - Lamoine’s Board of Appeals will hear oral arguments from all sides about the height of a house build last spring on Marlboro Beach Road. Nearby property owner Alan Moldawer has alleged the house contracted by Thomas and Katherine True exceeds the town’s 35-foot building height limit. He has challenged Code Enforcement Officer Rebecca Albright’s determination that the house is less than 35-feet above the finish grade.

At issue may be the interpretation of the Lamoine Building and Land Use Ordinance. The definition of building height is the distance between the original grade or the final grade, whichever is greater. The Trues submitted an application for a building permit in December 2018 which showed a substantial amount of fill and an approximately 28-foot building on top. There was no challenge to the permit when it was granted.

CEO Albright and Planning Board Chair John Holt twice measured the building from the final grade using pre-measured PVC sections and determined the height above the final grade was less than 35-feet.

The Appeals Board has received a voluminous amount of testimony from neighborhood property owners opposing the building height determination. Attorney James Collier was retained to help guide the Appeals Board through the process.

A well attended meeting was held at the Lamoine School in August, and initially a date in September was set for a formal hearing on the matter with deadlines for all parties to submit testimony. Due to a lack of a quorum likely for the September 25th date, a new date was set for October 29, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the town hall.

## Permits Issued

(Lamoine) - The following construction permits were issued by Code Enforcement Officer Albright in Quarter # 3.

#	Name	Project
23	Andrews, Holly	Residence
24	***denied***	Addition
25	Yonis, Robin	Garage
26	Gilbert, Tyler	Shed
27	Savage, Darren	Shed
28	Brown, Robert	Mobile Home
29	West, Ronald	Garage
30	Graves-Jewell, A.	“She shed”
31	Harper, Timothy	Shed
32	Rosa-Rodriguez, L.	Roof Deck
33	Staples, Felicia	Camper
34	Dalton, Vanessa	Addition
35	Hanson, Bethany	Shed
36	Staples, Felicia	RV
37	Hammer, Christy	Shed
38	O’Hanion, George	Residence
39	Gerkin, Christopher	Barn
40	Marlboro by Sea	Addition

## Jim Norris Passes Away—Helped Save Clamming

(Lamoine) - Twice, Lamoine fixture James Norris was honored at town meeting. Once was Citizen of the Year, the other for Lamoine’s Conservation Award. In mid-October, his friends and family said farewell.

Norris gets a lot of credit for helping to form the Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfishing ordinance that brought regulation to one of his favorite activities at Marlboro Beach—clam harvesting. His family owned a large tract of land on the beach at Raccoon Cove and he arranged with his surviving brothers to

broker a deal with the Frenchman Bay Conservancy to purchase the land and turn it over to the Town of Lamoine.

A Veteran of the Vietnam war, Jim was awarded a Purple Heart. He worked for the many iterations of the telephone company after leaving the military in 1970.

In keeping with Jim’s whimsical character, friends and family celebrated his life by “dressing like Jim” for his funeral on October 12th, days short of his 73rd birthday, sharing stories and good company.

## Town Hall Cupola Requires Lots of Work

(Lamoine) - The cupola that sits on top of Lamoine’s Town Hall has been there since the building was constructed. It still houses the old school bell which has not rung for decades. It’s also in a bit if disrepair.

Depending on which way the wind blows, rain gets inside and often leaks through the ceiling in the foyer of the town hall. Insulation above the ceiling is quite damp.

Selectmen and town staff will be looking to specialized contractors to repair the cupola. The big issue appears to be the ventilation slats, many of which have rotted away, leaving gaps in which the rain gets in. Money is not budgeted for a crane and contractor to repair the damage, so repairs may be temporary in nature for the 2020 budget and an amount added to the 20/21 budget for proper repairs.



## State Says Comp Plan Now Consistent

(Augusta) - Lamoine’s Comprehensive Plan that was passed at the annual town meeting in March remains in effect, but some changes will have to go back before town meeting so that it is in compliance with State of Maine Expectations. Comp Plan Committee members worked on several land use matters during the summer after the State Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry issued an opinion that the plan was incomplete.

A submission in early September resulted in a letter from the agency that the plan was now indeed complete. The senior planner said it still needed to look at the plan’s future land use section to see if it is

consistent with state regulation. Just as the Lamoine Quarterly was going to press, Comprehensive Plan Chair Fred Stocking got word from the State that the plan as amended by the committee meets the state requirements.

The slightly revised plan will still need final town meeting approval. Representatives of the Comprehensive Planning Committee will meet with the Board of Selectmen in November to see whether a special town meeting should be called or if they can wait until the annual town meeting in March of 2020 to get final approval. The town has spent nearly 5-years working on the plan.

## Gravel Permits Dominate Planning Board

(Lamoine) - Lamoine’s Planning Board will have a busy few months as it combs through a half dozen gravel permits seeking to continue operation of existing pits. The Board did approve a new permit for the so-called Kittridge Pit operated by Harold MacQuinn, Inc. A condition on that permit requires the company to restore parts of the pit that were excavated beyond the originally permitted area during the time that an expansion was initially approved, but then rescinded by a court order. That matter has been appealed to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

The board requires that materials used in the restoration come from the currently permitted excavation area.

Still to receive completeness review are two pits from John Goodwin

Jr., one pit from RF Jordan & Sons, and three from Harold MacQuinn, Inc.

The detailed review on the Kittridge in early October precluded the completeness reviews. Those are planned for the regular Board meeting scheduled on November 4, 2019.

Lawyers for the MacQuinn corporation had requested that Planning Board Chair John Holt recuse himself from hearing any of their applications because of a perceived conflict of interest. A citizens’ group asked that Planning Board Member Perry Fowler not decide on gravel matters involving MacQuinn as his company and MacQuinn have a written setback agreement on other gravel pits which they contend creates the appearance of a conflict of interest.



## Facilities Maintenance Director Leaving, Replacement Sought

(Lamoine) - The town's facilities maintenance director has given the town notice that he will be leaving the post in the next few months as he and his wife plan to move to Texas. Rick Gallegos moved to Lamoine about 7-years ago and joined the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department. He and his wife Connie Bender were very active in town affairs, serving on volunteer committees. Rick served as Deputy Code Enforcement Officer for a while and then as Code Enforcement Officer and Facilities Management Director for the past few years.

The position is a part time job—perfect for someone who might be looking for a secondary source of income. It includes janitorial services at the town office, maintaining the dog bags and restroom facilities at the town parks, and performing or arranging to repair larger projects as may be needed. Pay will depend on capability and experience.

The job will be posted on the town's website ([www.lamoine-me.gov](http://www.lamoine-me.gov)) with applications due by November 18, 2019.

## Complaints Flood Code Enforcement

(Lamoine) - The alleged “too tall building” matter currently before the Board of Appeals has led to other Lamoine property owners alleging violations at neighboring homes which has flooded the Code Enforcement Office with complaints.

CEO Rebecca Albright is currently following up on complaints against two homes in the neighborhood that are often rented on a short term basis for advertising more bedrooms than their septic systems are sized for. One of the home owners pointed to a septic permit that was issued subsequent to its original construction that was sized for the correct number of bedrooms. The other apparently had a septic system designed in the 1990's for a correct size system that was installed, but was never submitted to the Local Plumbing Inspector at the time for permitting. Albright is working with the original site evaluator to have that designed system updated with confirmation that the latter system was installed.

The CEO is also dealing with a complaint from across Raccoon Cove that a temporary recreation vehicle has overstayed its 120-day limit for the year. The property owner has made arrangements to remove the RV for the winter.

Albright issued a notice of violation to a Shoreland zone property owner who allegedly cleared his land for a driveway and possible future home without obtaining a Shoreland Zoning permit. The Department of Environmental Protection has looked at the situation and has offered some assistance. So far the property owner has not responded to the certified deliver of the violation notice.

## Psst...wanna buy a chair, cheap?

(Lamoine) - After more than 20 years of use the Selectmen opted to replace the meeting room chairs with brand new, padded chair seating. The board encumbered \$2,000 in unspent funds from the administration budget for the year that ended June 30, 2019 to fund the purchase. That left the town with some still usable seating that is taking up space at the town hall.

Selectmen authorized the town office to sell chairs. There are two padded chairs (the town office is keeping two others) available for \$5.00 each and about 15 folding chairs (the office will hang onto



the black ones) for \$2.00 each. Chairs will be sold on a first come/first served basis until they are gone. If they don't move, expect to find them available for free at the transfer station swap shop building.

## Town Meeting Dates Set for March 2020

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen has set the annual town meeting on two dates in March, 2020. The municipal election will coincide with the statewide presidential primaries on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. The polls will be open from 8am to 8pm, and the election of the town meeting moderator will take place at 7:55 AM.

The open town meeting will be held a couple weeks later on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 beginning at 6PM at the Lamoine School Gym. Harvey Kelley has agreed once again to moderate the meetings.

Prior to the actual town meeting, there will be a re-enactment of the first town meeting 150-years ago put on by the Lamoine 150! Committee.

Nomination papers will be available on November 24, 2019 for those interested in filling the Selectman's seat currently held by Nathan Mason, two School Board seats, currently held by Matthew Montgomery and Gordon Donaldson, and the Assessor's seat currently filled by Terry Towne. Those who wish to be on the ballot need to collect at least 25 signatures of registered voters on the petition and turn those in to the town office no later than January 3, 2020.



*Young Abby Martens sports a ribbon for participating in the Lamoine 150! Small Fry Run*

## Land Donations Awaited

(Lamoine) - Things have been very quiet in regard to a pair of expected public land donations in town. In May, voters approved acceptance of land surrounding Blunt's Pond from sisters Judith Whitcomb and Katherine Dudzinski. Dr. Whitcomb stopped by the town office this summer and confirmed the deal is in the works with the Frenchman Bay Conservancy, but that no final closing date had yet been set. The town will end up managing the parcel which features walking and snowmobile trails, but will be off limit to development around the ponds.

The other parcel mentioned in the July 2019 *Lamoine Quarterly* extends from Shore Road to the shoreline at Mt Desert Narrows and has been owned by the Hartline family for decades. Maine Coast Heritage Trust will likely end up as the owner of that land, but is expected to work closely with the town. Family members also stopped into the town office and confirmed their intention, but no closing date has yet been set.

Neither piece of potentially public land is expected to severely impact the town's property tax base. The Whitcomb property is undeveloped and the tax valuation “lost” to the overall property tax generation is less than \$2,000 per year. The Hartline (Old Point, Inc.) property is valued under tree growth valuation with a conservation exemption and generates less than \$1,000 in property taxes per year.

If completed, Maine Coast Heritage Trust would likely build a trail to the shore and maintain the property. Just what sort of trail system to give shore access remains to be seen. It's not believed that any town meeting action will be needed for that parcel.

### SONG WRITERS, POETS, AND PERFORMERS WANTED!!

Lamoine 150! will host an evening of “Celebrating Lamoine in Poetry and Song”, Saturday, February 8, 2020. Featuring original numbers or adaptations written and performed by YOU and other Lamoiners!! So Start Creating!!!

(See Lamoine 150! Facebook and Town website for further details.)



# Conservation Commission Educates Youngsters

By Linda Penkalski

(Lamoine) - September was a busy time for the Lamoine Conservation Commission's outreach programs with the Lamoine Consolidated School. In early September, LCC members worked with the sixth and seventh grade students and their science teacher, Chris James, to test the water at Blunts Pond. This is the second year of this Maine Community Foundation funded expansion of the GET WET! household drinking water testing program. On September 9th we met the students at Blunts Pond to conduct four tests and on September 10th we worked with the students in the classroom to conduct two other tests. Mr. James also worked with the students to measure salinity and dissolved oxygen. We are happy to report that the Blunts Pond water falls within normal limits for all measures.

On September 16th some LCC members and friends met the fifth grade students and their science teacher, Tiara Woods, at the Simon Trail for the fourth annual Simon Trail Tree Identification Walk. Students learned to identify twelve deciduous and coniferous trees, numbered along the trail to be recorded on a laminated worksheet with photos of the bark and leaves or needles. Due to the wet summer, there were many mushrooms and other fungi to observe on the trail, which was exciting for the students and adults. In the classroom, students worked on other tree related activities.

The LCC remains committed to supporting the top-notch science education provided by the Lamoine Consolidated School with enrichment activities centered on the Town's natural resources. We are looking forward to seeing today's students become tomorrow's leaders in science and resource stewardship. Who knows, maybe future members of the LCC were out there analyzing water samples on Blunts Pond as part of the GET WET! program!

## Vehicle Registration Agent Fee Goes Up

(Lamoine) - For the first time in more than 25-years, the town fee collected during the vehicle registration process has increased. The Maine Legislature passed a law increasing the range of re-registration agent fees to \$3.00 to \$5.00 and a new registration from \$4.00 up to \$6.00. The law took effect on September 19, 2019. Lamoine's Board of Selectmen revised its fee schedule that same date to reflect the new fee range, increasing the re-registration fee to \$3.00 and the new registration fee to \$5.00. That was a \$1.00 increase in both vehicle agent fees, yet lower than the maximum allowed under state statute. The town had previously charged \$2.00 for re-registration and \$4.00 for a new registration.

The decision to charge lower than the maximum allowed is a conscious one. The local BMV office in Ellsworth is close by and does not charge the fee, but most folks opt not to use the BMV for simple transactions.



Students from the Lamoine Consolidated School hiked on the Simon Trail in Lamoine in mid-September with their science teacher, Tiara Woods, (back row, right.) They learned to identify a dozen types of trees (both evergreens and deciduous). The program is designed to get young people excited about the outdoors, and this year's class also got to see numerous mushrooms and fungi. (L. Penkalski photo)

## State Says Lamoine Value Lower Than Previous Year

(Lamoine) - The State of Maine has declared that the collective taxable value of Lamoine drops slightly for 2020. In its annual valuation report, Lamoine came in with \$278,600,000 in the state's estimate of taxable value. That compares with \$279,250,000 for 2019, or a drop of 0.23%. What's behind the drop in value? Possibly is an increase in tax exempt land with the purchase of Marlboro Beach from the Norris Family and several pieces of foreclosed property which were subsequently disposed of.

The local Board of Assessors valued Lamoine at \$279,402,875 on April 1, 2019. The difference between the town and state valuation is the closest it has been in many years, less than 6-hundredths of a percent. The state valuation helps determine how much municipal revenue sharing and education aid the town receives from the state.

## Town to Help Administer Grant Program

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen has agreed to be the fiscal agent for the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District (HCSWD) as it starts a project funded through a grant program. The agreement means that the town treasurer will submit bills from a project to look at water quality on the Jordan River to the state for reimbursement, and then disburse the funds when the grant revenue come into the town.

The Hancock County Planning Commission which has gone into limbo for the time being, had been the fiscal agent. The HCSWD turned to Lamoine because only two towns bordering the project were up to date on their Comprehensive Plan. The workload on town staff is expected to be minimal, and the town can charge a small fee to administer the grant.

## Town Tax Rate Drops, Slightly

(Lamoine) - When the tax bills arrived in property owner mailboxes in mid July, no complaints came in about them to the town office. The reason—most people's property taxes were lower. The annual town meeting passed a municipal budget that required less property tax money for the town's operations, and the education budget impact was minimal. That along with anticipated increased non property tax revenues allowed the Board of Assessors to drop the tax rate from 11.2 mills (\$11.20 per \$1,000 valuation) to 10.9 mills (\$10.90/\$1000). On an \$200,000 home, that's a \$60/year saving. In addition to the lower property tax rate, home owners enrolled in the homestead tax exemption program saw that exemption rise to \$20,000, which resulted in \$218.00 off the property tax bill. The budgeting process is just starting for the 2020/2021 budget, and it's not clear whether the lower rate can be sustained.



Members of the Lamoine 150! Committee (l-r Jo Cooper, Diane Sanderson (front), Miranda Engstrom (rear) and Carol Duffy helped to stuff the tax bills in envelopes in July. Inserted with the bills was a promotional flyer for the Lamoine 150! Celebrations. Ms. Engstrom is an old pro at tax bill stuffing, as she did so for several years while providing child care for the town administrator's children who would assist each summer.



## Shellfishing Enforcement May Change

(Lamoine) - The 7-town region that regulates Shellfishing around a portion of Frenchman Bay is looking to County Government to take over supervision of the Shellfish Warden. Currently, the City of Ellsworth Police Department acts as the law enforcement agency employing the warden. City Manager David Cole and Police Chief Glenn Moshier have expressed a desire to remove that responsibility from Ellsworth PD.

Local Shellfishing Joint Municipal Board member Richard Fennelly Jr. met with Selectmen to give them a heads up that a different sponsoring law

enforcement agency might be needed. That board has approached the Hancock County Commissioners and Sheriff Scott Kane to see if the shellfish warden(s) might become part time employees of the Sheriff's Department. After an initial cool reception, Commissioners seem more open to the idea. Sheriff Kane, though, said the position has not been included in the 2020 County Budget. Fennelly said each member town may end up paying more for Shellfishing enforcement in the next year.

Ellsworth, though, has agreed to remain the fiscal administrator for the Shellfishing license program.

## Fire Department Ladders Pass Tests

(Lamoine) - Bend, but don't break! That's the mantra from Fire Chief George "Skip" Smith as the department's ladder truck and ground ladders underwent substantial testing in August. This was the first test for the new ladder truck the department obtained from a Canadian fire department in October 2018, and only minor repairs were required to the complex equipment.

The ground ladders also received testing from a Connecticut based company, National Engineering Testing Services. With one exception, a damaged rung on one of the several roof ladders the trucks carry, the ladders all passed their extremely rigorous exams.

The department has ordered a new roof ladder which is expected to arrive sometime in November, just in time for chimney fire season.

Under state and federal law, fire departments must test ladders, hoses, and fire pumps annually. Regulations also require minimal manpower training to remain in compliance with state and federal workplace safety laws.



## Firefighters Trained for Crew Shortage

(Lamoine) - When some of the veteran members of the Lamoine VFD were training years ago, a nationally recognized expert in fire command put it succinctly—put the wet stuff on the red stuff. Some newer firefighting techniques are stressing that as current department members found out during a class held at the Lamoine Fire Station in September put on by Augusta Fire Chief Roger Audette. He called it "First Due without a Crew", and that's what frequently happens in small towns like Lamoine.

Chief Audette emphasized the importance of quickly getting water on the fire to keep it from growing to the point that it engulfs a home. The training showed that cooling the fire down with water gives mutual aid fire departments and more in-town crew members a chance to arrive at the scene.

Lamoine has practiced that on several past fire calls. A lot depends on how soon a fire is reported to 9-1-1, the time of day, and the amount of manpower available. The lead pumper truck in Lamoine carries about 900-gallons of water, which can knock a lot of fire down..

## Fire Department Auction Another Success

(Lamoine) - The bidding for the 2019 version of the Lamoine Fire Department Auction was brisk on some items. A donated John Deere riding lawn mower fetched a \$1,000.00 winning bid at the Lamoine Consolidated School Gym.

When all the bids were tallied up, the LVFD had grossed just about \$11,000 dollars. That money will help replenish the fire department's fund used in the past year to purchase modern SCBAs (airpacks) and with equipment and repairs to the ladder truck.

Department Lt. / Secretary Joe Young deserves much of the credit for the auction's success, as he had coordinated the event for nearly 20-years. He's already making plans for the 2021 auction which will likely fall on the big finale weekend for the town's bi-centennial.

Part of the auction's success has been the community's willingness to donate high quality items. There has been so much in the past two years that a storage unit was rented to hold it all.

## Fire Department Calls Steady, Nothing Too Serious

(Lamoine) - After starting out the quarter in July responding to a pair of major structural fires in Ellsworth and Lamoine (see July 2019 Lamoine Quarterly), the intensity of the calls slowed for the 3rd quarter of the year. The quarter saw 23 calls for help. Eight of those calls came in to assist ambulance crews with moving patients from precarious positions.

Perhaps the most urgent call was from a Trenton woman whose young child managed to lock their vehicle with the keys, and an infant, inside the car at Lamoine Beach on a hot August afternoon. Local mechanic John Burnett was on scene before fire department personnel arrived and fashioned a device that eventually was able to unlock the door through a crack in the passenger side door. The infant was no worse for the wear.

The fire department responded to a pair of motor vehicle accidents, one on Route 3 in Trenton where members assisted both at the scene and by shutting down the busy road for a while at the Jordan River Road intersection, backing up summer traffic for miles. The other accident was on Jordan River Road and was a result of road racing on a late Saturday night. None of the occupants of the vehicle that went off the road and got caught up at the end of a driveway was injured. They initially told firefighters and a dispatcher they were trying to avoid a deer. The investigating Hancock County Deputy Sheriff wrote the driver a ticket—there was no deer at the scene.

## LVFD Dinner was Part of 150! Kickoff

(Lamoine) - The annual clam chowder supper that draws hundreds of people to the Lamoine Consolidated School will wait until 2020 to come back around. The Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department has put on the dinner for decades. Instead of the more formal time in mid-October, the LVFD instead served barbecue and clam chowder at the Lamoine 150 kickoff on October 5th at no charge to the community. Many people contributed cash and checks into a boot the LVFD had placed near the food table, and the Lamoine 150! Committee has agreed to pick up the cost of food served at the Robin's Run Road Race.

## Mailed Lamoine Quarterlies to End

(Lamoine) - A dwindling number of printed and mailed subscribers to the *Lamoine Quarterly* has led to the pending end of mailed copies. Many of the subscriptions were courtesy copies to neighboring communities who will receive e-mailed copies instead. Printed editions can still be picked up at the town office and will go home with students at the Lamoine Consolidated School. Paid subscriptions will be honored but not renewed.





*Neighbors Mark Munsell (l) and Herb Watson (r) stop for a picture while cleaning up the Mud Creek Road area as part of their Adopt a Highway Commitment.*

## Adopt A Highway Still Going Strong

By Georgia Munsell

(Lamoine) - Twelve years ago in 2007, Lamoine became the first town in Hancock County and the 7<sup>th</sup> town in all of Maine to approve and implement the state's Adopt-A-Highway program.

For the program, the town was divided into 27 one-mile sections which volunteers adopted usually right where they lived. Volunteers agree to pick up road side trash at least two times a year, once in the spring and once in the fall. However, many pick up more frequently than that.

Recently, the Lamoine Conservation Commission approved the purchase of seven "Nifty-Nabbers" to assist those volunteers getting trash out of difficult to reach or wet places.

Lamoine salutes and thanks the following Lamoine volunteers who have adopted a section of town roadway:

Assaf, Lynn  
Bland, Barbara & Bamman, Don  
Bragdon, Joan & Merle  
Byers, Shannon & Dave  
Cassel, Diana  
Donaldson, Cynthia & Gordon

Englehard, Shayna  
Gillett, Bruce & Rybarz, Kathleen  
Haines, Jackie  
Holdsworth, Nicole & Makenzie  
Marckoon, Stu  
McFarland, Gary & Debbie  
McMullen, Jane & Steve  
Morrison, Becky  
Munsell, Georgia & Mark  
Pinkham, Teresa & Harrison  
Pulver, Georgianna & Bob  
Robichaud, Jack  
Sanderson, Diane & David  
Simon, Iris  
Smith, Sally & Ken  
Stewart, Doug  
Tadema-Wielandt, Lynda & Chris  
Thomas, Larissa  
Towne, Terry & Diana  
Wakefield, Carolyn & Anderson, Luke  
Wallace, Connie & Rick  
Watson, Herb  
White, Cindy, Lonnie & Erin  
Also, Lamoine wishes to extend a heartfelt thanks to the following dedicated, long serving volunteers who have had to drop off due to health issues:  
Alvarez, Darlene, Elizabeth & Bob  
Boynton, Nancy & Harold  
Heitert, Nancy & Steve

## And the Shoreline is Clean, too!

By Larissa Thomas

(Lamoine) - For the fourth year running, as part of Maine Coastweek, the Lamoine Conservation Commission organized a series of volunteer crews to conduct coastal cleanups around town on September 21. Three teams of energetic volunteers scoured nearly 3 miles of shoreline, filling 13 bags with trash and recyclables. The crews worked at the head of the Skillings River around Kilkenny Cove, and along a stretch of the Skillings River south of Seal Point. Other enterprising individuals pitched in on their own elsewhere in town. These efforts, part of the Lamoine 150 celebration, not only helped to preserve the beauty of our shoreline, they resulted in a substantial amount of trash and fragments of lost fishing gear being removed from the marine ecosystem that would otherwise present an entanglement hazard for whales, turtles, and other marine organisms. All of the plastics that end up in the world's oceans ultimately fragment into smaller and smaller pieces that are ingested by birds, fish, and other creatures, creating life-threatening blockages of their digestive systems.

It's not exactly hardship duty to pick up trash along some of the most beautiful coastline in the world on what was a gloriously beautiful day, but the Conservation Commission would like to express our sincere appreciation to the dedicated volunteers who gave part of their Saturday to make Lamoine an even better place. The information recorded on what was collected by the Lamoine cleanup crews will be shared with the Maine Department of Marine Resources and the Ocean Conservancy, whose website contains the data tabulated on materials collected during cleanups around the world: <https://oceanconservancy.org/trash-free-seas/international-coastal-cleanup/annual-data-release/>

*Fred Stocking and Larissa Thomas haul plastic debris from the shoreline during Lamoine's Coastal Cleanup Day. The large plastic piece retrieved would eventually breakdown into micro-plastics, dangerous to sea life if ingested. Three miles of shoreline got a pretty thorough cleanup during the 2019 edition of Coast Week in Maine.*

## Transfer Station Redesign Gets Started

(Lamoine) - An effort to make Lamoine's Transfer Station more cost effective will get under way this fall. Selectmen and volunteer consultant Ken Smith sent out a request for engineering proposals to try to cut astronomical transportation costs for both trash and recycling and reconfigure the transfer station to efficiently use compaction equipment.

CES Inc which has offices in both Brewer and on Mt. Desert Island submitted the successful proposal which Selectmen picked in October. Senior Project Manager Chip Reeves, the former public works director of Bar Harbor, has experience with designing a transfer station which compacts trash and recycling in order to reduce transportation costs. He will be working with Transfer Station Manager Chris Meyer and the Selectmen to come up with a workable design and a cost to present to the town meeting.



## Town Leaders Meet With Potential New Emera Owners

(Lamoine) - The town's largest taxpayer is currently Emera Maine, the company that distributes electricity for most of Hancock County and a large chunk of Eastern Maine. A maintenance facility and several other properties along with high voltage transmission lines make up the tax portfolio. The company also registers a large truck fleet in Lamoine.

Emera, which is based in Nova Scotia, plans to sell to another Canadian Company called Enmax. The sale currently awaits Public Utilities Commission approval.

The presidents of both Emera and Enmax along with other officials of both companies paid a visit to the town hall and had a chat with members of the Board of Selectmen to introduce themselves. Enmax officials said they intend to retain the Emera employees based in Lamoine, and many of whom live in Lamoine, if the sale is approved.

Town officials inquired about converting the community's 5 streetlights to LED units. That happened just a couple of weeks later as Emera officials noted the request. They also inquired about broadband service through the power lines. Enmax said that is not in their plans at this time.

Officials from both companies say they hope for final approval from the PUC in December or January. Enmax President Gianna Manes said they plan to operate under a name other than Enmax which would be appropriate for Maine, but she declined to say what that name might be.



## Lamoine Girl Granted “She Shed” Wish

(Lamoine) - Normal for Felicity Evans has been regularly scheduled trips to the Lafayette Center in Brewer for infusions that make her arthritis bearable for most



of her life. As such, she qualified for the Maine-Make-A-Wish Foundation to grant seemingly impossible requests. Not only was it possible, it seemed perfect. In mid-August, Felicity and her Mom Alicia Graves-Jewell and her sister Izzy went to the movies in a limousine, and when they returned home, there was a crowd waiting and a brand new shed that is her own space. The Make-A-Wish organization

says while it’s an unusual wish (most youngster choose a theme park trip), it’s not the first shed wish the non-profit has granted.

Felicity said the shed was perfect. It comes with a green wall which she will use to product YouTube videos. And there is a wolf theme, as Felicity is very much concerned about the world’s wolf population and how they are perceived.

## Grange News

The Lamoine Grange has had an active couple of months welcoming new members and sponsoring several events.

Another Red Cross blood drive was held at the end of August and we once again exceeded the goals the Red Cross set for us. The Northern District of the Red Cross praised our effort with staff telling a Grange member “I wish I had a hundred sponsors like you.” The final blood drive of the season is scheduled for December 11, from noon-5pm.

The Lamoine Grange will donate a dictionary to each third grade student at the Lamoine Consolidated School in September. The goal it is to put a dictionary into the hands of every third grader in the country. To date, over 32 million dictionaries have been donated through the Dictionary Project.

The Grange is also going to sponsor an afternoon of cribbage in connection with the Lamoine 150 celebration. The date has yet to be determined.

The Grange meets at 6:30 pm on the first Wednesday of every month starting with a pot luck dinner, and then moving on to organizational matters at 7pm.

## Soccer Jackets Donated



*We would like to send a great big “Thank You” out to Dianne Richardson for our new soccer jackets! When Dianne came to one of our colder home soccer games to watch her grand niece, Cheyenne Ward, she noticed that the students appeared cold with no jackets. She generously purchased jackets for the entire soccer team with their names on them.*

Lamoine’s 150 years. All are welcome to come, listen, and participate.

**October 23 (Wednesday) 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall.**

“The Road to Incorporation in 1870” Presenting what life was like in the 1860s and how Lamoine was formed by “separating” from Trenton. Readings and dramatizations will make this an energetic and informative evening for all! Refreshments served.

**November 13, 2019 (Wednesday); 6:30 – 8:00 at the Lamoine School**

“Lamoine Before Lamoine” Dr. Rick Will presents the story of the land that became Lamoine and the first people who lived here. Sponsored by the Lamoine Conservation Commission. Refreshments served.

**December 7, 2019 (Saturday); 2:00 – 4:00 at the Grange Hall**

“Entertainments and Holidays in Lamoine” Lamoiners have come together for fun and celebration for 125 years. Presentations of programs and activities that entertained Lamoiners, from July 4, 1895 to Box Socials and school plays. Tea and treats served.

**January 15, 2020 (Wednesday); 6:30 – 8:00 at the Grange Hall**

“The Neighborhoods of Lamoine: Post Offices, Schoolhouses, and Rough Roads” Presentation of reminiscences and writings from the five neighborhoods that made up Lamoine over most of our history. Jo Cooper and others will share material from the Lamoine Historical Society. Refreshments served. **Be on the lookout in early November** for the announcement of **THE LAMOINE POETRY AND SONG FEST** inviting poets and musicians of all ages to create poems and songs to be performed for the whole community, Saturday February 8, 2020.

## Community Arts Scholarships Awarded

*By Anne Labossiere*

Lamoine Community Arts offers partial scholarships on a year round basis to students in grades K-12 interested in attending an arts program. To be eligible for one of these, a student must either live in Lamoine, attend the Lamoine Consolidated School or have a parent who works in Lamoine or is a member of Lamoine Community Arts.

The Scholarship Committee of Lamoine Community Arts was pleased to grant scholarships to three students this summer. The students were Emily Andrews, a first grader, Kali Lord, a first grader and Annine Kovacs, a seventh grader. Emily reported that she was excited to spend time drawing, painting and doing crafts at the ArtWaves Fine Arts Camp in Town Hill. Kali attended Camp Beech Cliff on MDI. Her favorite parts of camp were pottery, painting and being able to share her creations with her family. Annine attended the Summer Festival of the Arts at MDI High School. Her highlight was performing in the Junior Musical, “Aladdin.”

The LCA Scholarship Committee will consider applications to programs or lessons related to all arts throughout the calendar year. To obtain an application, pick one up from Betty Eaton at the Lamoine School



Emily Andrews

## Bedtime Stories From The School

*By Dawn McPhail, Principal*

(Lamoine) - Are you looking for a good book to listen to? We are excited to share a link to a video of guest readers reading great books! Each week, a link will be posted on our Lamoine Lions' Community Facebook page that will take to on a journey to watch one special LCS guest reader read a new bedtime story!

To Watch:

1. Like Lamoine Lions' Community on Facebook
2. Check the page to see new videos. Links will be posted throughout the school year with a goal of at least one new book each week. This is the only place that the link can be found!
3. Enjoy! We are happy to be able to share our love of reading with the LCS community!

Special thanks to our 8th grade students for helping to engineer this project during their ELA time and sharing their love of reading with the Lamoine Lions' Community.

If you would like to volunteer to guest read please send an email to Miss Miranda at [mengstrom@lamoineconsolidated.org](mailto:mengstrom@lamoineconsolidated.org)

## Detailed Lamoine 150! Schedule

Come one, come all! Young and old, short and tall! Lamoine 150! will host three *Celebrating Our Story* programs in the next three months. The programs are community gatherings to explore

- Inside this issue:
- Lamoine 150! Starts

Solar Project Vote Set

Tall House Hearing

Comp Plan OK'd

Facilities Job Open

Chairs for Sale

Tax Rate Drops

Ladders Pass Test

Transfer Station Design

Wish Granted

Jackets Donated
- 1

1

2

2

3

3

4

5

6

7

7

And Much, Much More!

Lamoine 150! Upcoming Events  
(Details on Page 7)

October 23 (Wednesday) 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Grange Hall.

November 13, 2019 (Wednesday); 6:30 – 8:00 at the Lamoine School  
“Lamoine Before Lamoine”

December 7, 2019 (Saturday); 2:00 – 4:00 at the Grange Hall  
“Entertainments and Holidays in Lamoine”

January 15, 2020 (Wednesday); 6:30 – 8:00 at the Grange Hall  
“The Neighborhoods of Lamoine: Post Offices, Schoolhouses, and Rough Roads”

October 2019 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3-7:00 PM Selectmen	4	5-Town Hall Open 8-12 Robin's Run/City BBQ/Park Hunt
6	7-7PM Planning Board	8	9-7PM Conservation Cmsn.	10-3:30 PM Lamoine 150!	11	12
13	14Town Hall Closed for State Holiday	15	16-7PM Shellfish Conservation	17-7PM Selectmen	18	19
20	21	22	23-Celebrating our Story	24	25	26-Town Hall Open 8 -Noon
27	28-6:00 Community Center Study Cmte	29-Town Office closed for training until Noon 6:30 Appeals Board	30	31		

November 2019—Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The Lamoine Budget Committee will begin meeting in November, but the meeting dates have not yet been finalized.					1	2-Town Hall Open 8am to Noon
3	4-7PM Planning Board	5—Election Day 8am to 8PM Town Hall	6	7-7PM Special Town Meeting followed by Selectmen	8	9
10	11—Town Hall Closed—Veterans' Day	12	13-7PM Conservation Commission	14	15	16
17	18	19	20-7PM Shellfish Conservation	21-7PM Selectmen	22-Nomination Papers Available	23
24	25	26	27	28—Town Hall Closed—Thanksgiving	29—Town Hall Open	30-Town Hall Open 8am to Noon

December 2019-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2-7PM Planning Board	3	4	5 –7PM Selectmen	6	7-Town Hall Open 8-Noon 2PM –Holidays in Lamoine
8	9	10	11-7 PM Conservation Commission	12	13	14
15	16	17	18-7PM Shellfish Conservation	19-7PM Selectmen	20	21
22	23	24-Town Hall Closes at 2PM	25-Town Hall Closed, Christmas	26	27	28-Town Hall Open 8 -Noon
29	30	31-Town Hall Closes at Noon				